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"Fiscal Pocket Guide"
Publications Available
as of November 2002

Basic State Finances
Bed Tax
Fiscal Training Opportunities
General Fund Fiscal 2002
Higher Education Funding
K-12 Education Funding
Medicaid
Montana Highway Funding
Montana's Budgeting Process
Pertinent State Statistics
Resource Indemnity Trust
TANF

Publications Under Development

Coal Tax Trust
Local Government Funding
Tobacco Trust

LFD Mission Statement

We are committed to enhancing the legislative process through understandable and objective fiscal policy analysis and information.

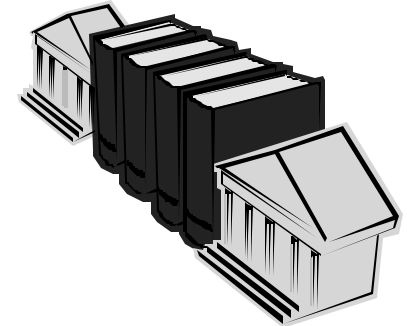
Fiscal Pocket Guide



FOCUS ON...
**LEGISLATOR
FISCAL
TRAINING
OPPORTUNITIES**

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL DIVISION

November 2002



Primary Contact: Taryn Purdy
Room 114, State Capitol
Helena, MT 59620-1711
(406) 444-5383
E-mail: tpurdy@mt.gov

Legislative Fiscal Division



www.leg.state.mt.us/fiscal

The staff of the Legislative Fiscal Division provides a number of training opportunities and materials for all legislators interested in state revenues and expenditures. Whether you wish to just “dip your toe in the water”, want more specialized and/or in-depth training, or just desire to have a handy reference guide when you need it, a training session or publication exists to meet your needs.

Training Opportunities

There are three primary training opportunities.

- 1) Overview training during new legislator orientation in November prior to the legislative session. This training is designed to provide a basic grounding in how state government operates and gets its funding.
- 2) Appropriations training for new members of the Appropriations or Finance Committees and any other interested legislators, held during the first week of the legislative session. This training reviews the basics and then discusses the appropriations process and the elements and structure of budgeting in Montana.
Where: Room 102, State Capitol
When: Early in the first week of session, exact time to be announced.
- 3) Specialized Appropriations and Finance Committee member training, concentrating on the elements of HB 2 and how to make that bill a more effective and powerful public policy tool. This training takes place in two sessions in the first and second weeks of session. All other interested legislators are invited to attend.
Where: Room 102, State Capitol
When: 2 hours each in the first and second week of session, exact times to be announced.

Fiscal Training Materials Available

The division produces a number of publications designed to either stand alone or to complement the above training.

Where (all materials):

- ◊ on the web: <http://leg.mt.gov/fiscal>
- ◊ in the LFD offices in room 110 of the State Capitol

- 1) A series of pamphlets entitled Fiscal Pocket Guide “Focus On...” is designed to give a basic understanding about fiscal public policy areas or fiscal and budgetary processes. A listing of all of the Fiscal Pocket Guides currently available is included at the end of this document.
- 2) “Understanding State Finances and the Budgeting Process” is designed to provide both basic and expanded information that will help you achieve the desired level of knowledge on how state finances and the budgeting process work. The document includes “Quick Look” sections for those wishing to just get the basics.
- 3) “HB 2 the Barbarian” provides specialized training on making the General Appropriations Act (HB 2) a powerful and effective public policy tool.

In addition to these training documents, the division creates publications each session that deal directly with HB 2, including the LFD Budget Analysis, the HB 2 narrative, and the Legislative Fiscal Report. The division also produces the general fund status sheet, which is the primary document for tracking revenues and expenditures during the legislative session for purposes of balancing the general fund budget. For these documents and any other services, visit or call us.

Contact the Legislative Fiscal Division
Room 110 of the State Capitol or visit us at:
<http://leg.mt.gov/fiscal>

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